MR. SPEAKER : This is very important. It is a matter between two States. Recently there has been a ruling of the Supreme Court on that issue and accoring to the judgment of the Court, action has been taken. That is what I understand. I do not think it is that urgent to be raised today. I will give you chance tomorrow morning. You please cooperate with me.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD (Fatehpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the people of the country want to know about 400 Skulls that have been recovered in Bodhgaya. Whose skulls are these? The Bihar Government as well as Central Government is keeping silent over it. Dalits are being killed in the strength of thousands at aferelaid place in Bihar. Poor people and Dalit farmers are fleeing to other states.

I demand that immediate action be taken in this matter after having a discussion during zero hour

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14.47 hrs.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) Need for Construction of a Pedestrian Sub-way at Railway gate on Ramghat Road in Aligarh, U.P.

[Translation]

SHRIMATI SHEELA GAUTAM (Aligarh) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ramghat Road of Aligarh Parliamentary Constituency is a national highway and there is no Pedestrian overbridge near Railway crossing on this road, following which hundreds of accidents keep taking place. This overbridge is called killer bridge due to occurrance of accidents of that place. About 200 trains pass through it in 24 hours. It is a main line between Delhi and Calcutta.

Therefore, the Central Government is urged upon that order be given for immediate construction of overbridge along Ramghat road.

14.49 hrs.

(Shri P.M. Sayeed *in the Chair)*

(ii) Need for Early Conversion of Bhavnagar-Tarapur Railway line into Broadgauge

SHRI RATILAL KALIDAS VERMA (Dhanduka) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the demand for conversion of Bhavnagar-Tarapur line under Bhavnagar Railway Division of Western Railways into a broad gauge line has been long standing.

In order to lay the Bhavnagar-Tarapur Railway line, the traffic and engineering survey was conducted few years ago on which crores of rupees were spent.

'Saurashtra Chamber of Commerce' of Bhavnagar and various social, academic, cultural, Governmental and Railway organisation have been making this demand from time to time and have launched agitations also.

The conversion of Bhavnagar-Tarapur Rail line into a broad gauge line will help lessen the distance and Bhavnagar division will not only be connected with Saurashtra, Kutch and Gujarat but would also be directly linked with Delhi, Mumbai, Calcutta, Madras and various other routes of the country

At present, the conversion of meter gauge lines into broad gauge lines is already being done in the country. Bhavnagar-Tarapur rail line should also be converted into broad gauge line now

Earlier Bhavnagar was state Railways. Later on it become Saurashtra Railways and then came under Western Railways The Raja of Bhavnagar state had also kept few crore rupees in reserve for Bhavnagar-Tarapur broad gauge railway line. In spite of this, till date, this line has not been converted into broad gauge line. Although the Government had made a provision in the Rail budget during 1977-79 for this project, even then the work was never undertaken.

The Central Government is, therefore, requested to lay this line without further delay.

(iii) Need to Provide Adequate Financial Assistance to Government of Andhra Pradesh for providing Relief to the people affected by Recent Cyclones

[English]

DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY (Visakhapatnam) Sir, the cyclonic storm and accompanying rains in Andhra Pradesh recently have caused a great damage to the State. The total number of deaths were 87. The worst hit was Chittoor District which accounted for 37. In Madanapalle town 26 persons were washed away in the floods following breaches East Godavari was the most affected district in the coastal region with 13 deaths. Eleven people were killed in Kurnool, 8 in Mehbubnagar, 5 in Nellore, 4 each in Krishna and Cuddapah, 3 in Guntur and two in Anantapur. The total damage caused to the State

was Rs. 50 crore. The State Government had submitted a report to the Central Government seeking the Central assistance to the State in which 11 district were affected.

Almost for the last five years the cyclone and floods have been causing great damage to the State. During 1990-95, 58 districts was affected and 2245 villages were completely destroyed involving 26.05 lakh people. The assistance provided by the Centre was to meagre that even half of the affected population could not be provided sufficient compensation

I request the Union Government to provide adequate relief to the people affected by cyclone in Andhra Pradesh. I also submit that both Central Government and State Government should evolve some machinery by which the people are given advance warning and are helped for immediate transportation to safer places. Further, both Centre and State should evolve a formula by which immediate assistance to the people who have lost their earning members, houses and crops may be provided

(iv) Need for Early Conversion of Gorakhur-Gonda Railway line into Broadgauge

[Translation]

SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI (Dumariyagan); There is a dire need for conversion of Gorakhpur-Gonda railway line into broadgauge because this region is extremely backward and poor and is situated on the border of Nepal That is why most of the population of this area go out and earn their livelihood. This is the passage to Nepal The pressure of population is very much Kapilvastu, Lumbani, Shravasti like famous Buddist pilgrim centres are situated here After conversion into broadguage the pressure on Gorakhpur-Lucknow main line will be reduced considerably A survey in this regard has also been conducted

Therefore, the Central Government is urged upon to take up the gauge conversion immediately and also make provisions to this effect in the coming Rail Budget

(v) Need to Provide Financial Assistance to Government of Bihar for Modernisation of Sone Canal

SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH (Jahanabad) The question of modernisation of Sone Canal is pending with the Government for years together The main canal stretches from Indrapuri Denri and Sone to Patna and it passes through my Parliamentary Constituency The embankments of the canal have become so weak that in the event of release of excess water both embankments are breached and a flood-like situation is created in the villages along the canal.

The depth of the canal is decreasing due to deposit of silt and embankments are about to give way. In such a situation, the people living alongside the canal area do not get enough water for irrigation and sometimes it leads to drought and sufficient produce is not obtained.

The Ministry of Water Resources had constituted a high level Committee in this regard however we have not been apprised of the action taken by the committee as yet.

Therefore the Central Government is requested that positive action should be taken soon for the modernisation of Sone Canal and the Government of Bihar should be provided special funds for this purpose.

(vi) Need for improvement in Drainage System in Fatehpur in Uttar Pradesh

SHRI VISHAMBHAR PRASAD NISHAD (Fatehpur) In the absence of sewer line in Fatehpur district of Uttar Pradesh, the entire city is flooded during the rainy season claiming hundreds of lives every year The Superintending Engineer, Construction Division, U P, through Jal Niham, Allahabad vide the letter No. 2455/Accounts/8/95 dated 30.4.1990 released five lakh rupees for the purpose. Subsequently the detailed assessment of the scheme, cost was estimated at Rs. 1291.66 lakhs and after getting the technical approval of Chief Engineer vide letter No 5123/App V Swi/46 dated 14.12.1990, the proposal has been forwarded to Jal Nigam headquarters Now only the funds are to be allocated

Therefore, the Central Government is requested to direct the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to issue financial sanction for the drainage system in Fatehpur city of Uttar Pradesh within the financial year

(vii) Need for Construction of a Road-Cum-Rail Bridge on River Gang at Monghyr, Bihar

SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL (Monghyr) The river Ganga flows between Monghyr and Khagaria in Bihar and I would like to draw the attention of the Central Government towards the need for construction of a Road-cum-Rail bridge over it In 1952, the then Prime Minister Pandit Nehru had visited Monghyr and had promised that a bridge would be constructed on river Ganga at Monghyr. In 1971 the then Prime Minister visited Monghyr for electioneering and she had also given the assurance that a bridge would be